

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The applicants thank the examiner for the opportunity to discuss the patent application during a telephone interview with applicants' counsel on May 5, 2005.

Status of the Claims

Claims 21-26 and 29 have been amended, Claims 31-51 have been added, and no additional claims have been canceled. As a result of the above amendments, claims 21-26, 29, and 31-51 are pending. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections

The applicants have amended the claims to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicants regard as the invention. Additionally, in view of the amended claims, none of the cited prior art references disclose, teach, or suggest—alone or in combination—each and every element of the applicants' claimed invention. As such, the applicants submit that the amended claims are patentably distinct and respectfully request that the claim rejections be withdrawn.


CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully request that all pending claims be passed to issue.

Should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned, at (312) 226-1818, is respectfully invited.

Respectfully submitted,
FACTOR & LAKE, LTD.

Dated: May 26, 2005



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 26, 2005.

Yolanda Solis
